

WATERBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES ~ SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

In an effort to adhere to social distancing guidelines, this meeting will be held without normal in-person public access. However, the meeting will be broadcasted live on the City of Waterbury's Government Access Channel (Comcast Channel 96, Frontier Channel 6096) or listened to via teleconference by calling 1-701-802-5064 with access code 2305673.

PRESENT: President Pagano, Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney, Jason Van Stone, and Tom Van Stone.

ABSENT: Commissioners Brown and Serrano-Adorno.

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Verna D. Ruffin, Deputy Superintendent Greg Rodríguez, Chief Financial Officer Doreen Biolo, Chief Operating Officer William Clark, Interim Director of Personnel Juan Mendoza, Chief Academic Officer Darren Schwartz, Attorney Tara Shaw, and Director of Communications Sujata Wycoff.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: None.

1. SILENT PRAYER

President Pagano called the special meeting to order at 8:12 p.m. with a moment of silence.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Hernandez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. ROLL CALL

CLERK: Commissioner Brown (absent). Vice President Harvey.

HARVEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Hernandez.

HERNANDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Orso.

ORSO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Serrano-Adorno (absent). Commissioner Stango.

STANGO: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Sweeney.

SWEENEY: Here.

CLERK: Commissioner Jason Van Stone.

J. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: Commissioner Tom Van Stone.

T. VAN STONE: Present.

CLERK: President Pagano.

PAGANO: Here.

4. COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERSONNEL

4.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Jason Van Stone, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the appointment of Linda Leyhow as Elementary School Principal, Bunker Hill School, effective August 17, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney,
J. Van Stone, T. Van Stone, and President Pagano – 8

4.2 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the appointment of Melissa D. DiGiovanni as PreK – Eight School Principal, Duggan School, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney,
J. Van Stone, T. Van Stone, and President Pagano – 8

4.3 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the appointment of Debra Ponte as PreK – Eight School Principal, Wendell Cross School, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney,
J. Van Stone, T. Van Stone, and President Pagano – 8

4.4 Upon a motion by Commissioner Stango and duly seconded by Commissioner Sweeney, it was voted, by roll call vote, to approve the lateral transfer request of Jade Gopie from Principal, Crosby High School to Principal, Waterbury Career Academy, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yeas: Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney,
J. Van Stone, T. Van Stone, and President Pagano – 8

5. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

5.1 Upon a motion by Commissioner Harvey and duly seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, it was voted unanimously to approve the revised 2020/2021 School Year Calendar as submitted.

PAGANO: Discussion? Commissioner Rocco Orso.

ORSO: On the school calendar it was suggested before . . . spring vacation.

HERNANDEZ: I guess they're going to look into, as long as it coordinates the schools that, the cities that are in our school district.

CLERK: We'll come back with that.

PAGANO: All in favor please say aye, opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to recess into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. for discussion concerning the annual evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools.

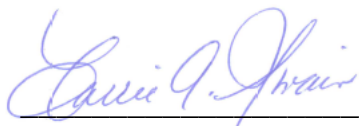
Present: President Pagano, Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, Orso, Stango, Sweeney, Jason Van Stone, Tom Van Stone, and Dr. Verna Ruffin.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Sweeney and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to return to the regular order of business at 8:39 p.m. with no votes taken.

PAGANO: Any discussion? All in favor say aye. Opposed? The ayes have it; motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Commissioner Orso and duly seconded by Commissioner Harvey, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST: 

Carrie A. Swain, Clerk
Board of Education